



VILLAGE OF MOUNT HOREB

E. Main Street

Mount Horeb, WI 53572

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SUSTAINABILITY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Municipal Building Board Room

138 E. Main Street

Mount Horeb, WI

- 1) Call to order
 - a. Roll Call
- 2) Agenda Items
 - a. Consideration of August 22, 2023 Meeting Minutes
 - b. Presentation: Jackie Harrison-Jewell, Couillard Solar Foundation solar canopy
 - c. Discussion: Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Program
 - d. Sol Smart Update
 - e. Discussion: Solar 101 Program
 - f. Discussion: Allowing bee keeping
 - g. Update: Mount Horeb Public Library hosting Dane County Trash Lab, Thursday November 2nd at 2:30 p.m.
 - h. Discussion: Sustain Dane Summit
 - i. Update Mount Horeb Children's School, Mount Horeb Community garden and Home Energy Consultant LLC to receive Dane County Climate Champion status
 - j. Future Agenda Items
- 3) Meeting adjournment.

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SUSTAINABILITY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 7:00 PM

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

1) Call to order

a. Roll Call

Chair White called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present: White, Grabe, Saltes, Fendrick, Beheler, Gottwald and Butosov. Absent: Gauger. Also Present: Administrator Owen.

2) Agenda Items

a. Consideration of July 25, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Saltes, second by Fendrick to approve the July 25, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

b. Recommendation: Pollinator and Garden Ordinance

Beheler introduced the revised ordinance, noting that the Village attorney reviewed the two separate ordinances and is recommending the combined ordinance presented tonight. Beheler noted that if recommended for approval tonight, it will go to the Public Works Committee next Monday, then the Village Board on September 6th.

Phil Levenworth expressed his concern about the lack of a definition of noxious weeds, the short time given for homeowners to mow their lawn after receiving notice, and he feels the Village is being short-sided not allowing the keeping of honey bees. The Committee discussed Levenworth's comments and felt that the noxious weeds are properly defined using the state statute; the Public Works Committee is best suited for addressing the notice concerns; and the honey bee ordinance could be taken up at another time.

Motion by Beheler to recommend approval as presented, second by Gottwald. Motion carried.

c. Sol Smart Progress Update

White informed the committee that work is progressing on the SolSmart designation. We need to complete a draft of zoning language allowing solar panels and complete the solar panel check list. White feels we are well situated to receive a bronze designation with SolSmart.

- d. SNR Column Review and Approval: Food Security
The Committee reviewed two columns, one on food security by Catie DeMets and Jules Reynolds and one on Solsmart by Butosov.

Motion by Gottwald to approve the food security column, second by Butosov. Motion carried.

Motion by Saltes to approve the Solsmart column, second by Fendrick. Motion carried.

- e. Update: Good Morning Mount Horeb Presentation by Jennifer Gottwald
Gottwald will be presenting the SNR slideshow at the September 6th Good Morning Mount Horeb. Gottwald will update the slides to include recent accomplishments of the committee.

- f. Discussion: Dane County Bike Trail Grants
The Committee reviewed information on the Dane County Bike Trail Grants. The consensus of the committee was that it looks like a good opportunity but we do not have enough time to apply this year. This will occur as an agenda item again in the future.

3) Meeting adjournment.

Motion by Butosov, second by Grabe. Motion carried at 8:16 p.m.



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE	PREPARED BY
September 26, 2023	

AGENDA ITEM # 2.b

Presentation: Jackie Harrison-Jewell, Couillard Solar Foundation solar canopy

BACKGROUND

RECOMMENDATION

ATTACHMENTS

None



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

September 26, 2023

PREPARED BY

AGENDA ITEM # 2.c

Discussion: Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Program

BACKGROUND

The Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Program (SFE) is named for Wild Ones lifetime Honorary Director [Lorrie Otto](#), the founding inspiration for Wild Ones, Native Plants, Natural Landscapes, Ltd. SFE program provides meaningful learning opportunities that connect youth to nature and the [Wild Ones mission](#). For more than 25 years, this vital Wild Ones donor-funded program has provided grants ranging from \$100 to \$500 for native plant gardens and landscaping projects throughout the United States. The funds are designated for acquiring native plants and seeds for outdoor learning areas that engage youth (preschool to high school) directly in planning, planting and caring for native plant gardens. <https://wildones.org/seeds-for-education/>

RECOMMENDATION

ATTACHMENTS

None



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE	PREPARED BY
September 26, 2023	
AGENDA ITEM # 2.d	
Sol Smart Update	
BACKGROUND	
RECOMMENDATION	
ATTACHMENTS	
None	



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE	PREPARED BY
September 26, 2023	
AGENDA ITEM # 2.e	
Discussion: Solar 101 Program	
BACKGROUND	
RECOMMENDATION	
ATTACHMENTS	
None	



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

September 26, 2023

PREPARED BY

AGENDA ITEM # 2.f

Discussion: Allowing bee keeping

BACKGROUND

In discussion of the pollinator garden ordinance, a resident made a request that the village condier allowing bee keeping in the Village. SNR member Gottwald assembled the attached information on this topic.

RECOMMENDATION

ATTACHMENTS

1. SNR Bees Sept 2023

Mt. Horeb Sustainability and Natural Resources Committee
Discussion of beekeeping in Mt. Horeb

Background: Mt. Horeb citizens have been showing increased support of pollinators, including embracing No Mow May and supporting the passage of a village pollinator garden ordinance. A citizen asked the SNR committee to review the village ban on beekeeping and consider amending.

In 2010, Mt. Horeb passed a prohibition on keeping bees within the village.

Mt. Horeb Village Code (accessed at ecode360.com 09/18/2023)

10.01 Public nuisances prohibited.

[Amended at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Government, Art. V)]

No person shall cause, continue, maintain or permit any public nuisance within the Village.

10.02 Public nuisance defined.

A public nuisance is a thing, act, occupation, condition or use of property which continues for such length of time as to:

(1)

Substantially annoy, injure or endanger the comfort, health, repose or safety of the public.

(2)

In any way render the public insecure in life or in the use of property.

(3)

Greatly offend the public morals or decency.

(4)

Unlawfully and substantially interfere with, obstruct or tend to obstruct, or render dangerous for passage, any street, alley, highway, navigable body of water or other public way or the use of public property.

(5)

Be harmful to the general aesthetics and property values of persons residing in the vicinity of such property.

[Amended 6-2-1999 by Ord. No. 99-3]

10.03 Public nuisances.

[Amended 6-2-1999 by Ord. No. 99-3; 7-8-2009 by Ord. No. 2009-31; 8-4-2010 by Ord. No. 2010-12; at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Government, Art. V)]

The following, as defined, are specifically declared to be public nuisances, but such enumeration shall not be construed to exclude other nuisances coming the definition of § **10.02:**

ADULTERATED FOOD

All decayed or spoiled food or drink sold or offered for sale to the public.

AIR POLLUTION

The escape of smoke, soot, cinders, noxious acids, fumes, gases, fly ash, industrial dust or other atmospheric pollutants within the Village in such quantities as to endanger the health of persons or threaten or cause substantial damage to property in the Village.

BEE/WASP HIVES AND APIARIES

The keeping of any species of bee/wasp hives or apiaries within Village limits.

BREEDING PLACES FOR INSECTS OR VERMIN

Accumulations of decayed animal or vegetable matter, trash, rubbish, rotting lumber, bedding, packing material, open garbage cans, scrap metal or any material in which flies, mosquitoes, disease-carrying insects, rats or other vermin can breed.

NOXIOUS ODORS, ETC.

Any use of property, substances or things within the Village emitting or causing any foul, offensive, noxious or disagreeable odors, gases or stenches extremely repulsive to the physical senses which annoy, discomfort, injure or inconvenience the health of persons within the Village.

Other municipalities in Dane County which appear to have ordinances allowing beekeeping under conditions and licensure include Madison, Middleton, and Black Earth.

Black Earth Village Code (accessed at ecode360.com 09/18/2023)

§ 100-8Beekeeping.

[Added 3-1-2016 by Ord. No. 07-02-2015]

A.

General provisions.

(1)

The Village Board finds that honeybee pollination is important to wildlife that depend on honeybees for a food source and as pollinators of the plants they consume. Further, honeybee hives support a healthy urban food supply. Therefore, notwithstanding any other provision of this Code, honeybees may be kept on any lot, regardless of zoning, subject to the limitations set forth below.

(2)

All honeybee colonies shall be kept in inspectable type hives with removable combs, which shall be maintained in clean, sanitary, sound and usable condition, free of rodents, vermin and objectionable odors.

(3)

Hives may be located only on lots of which the beekeeper is the owner or in lawful occupation.

(4)

No more than six hives may be located on a lot with a combined volume not to exceed 100 cubic feet.

(5)

No hive shall exceed 20 cubic feet in volume.

(6)

No hive shall be located closer than three feet from any property line.

(7)

No hive shall be located closer than 10 feet from a public sidewalk or 25 feet from a principal building on an abutting lot.

(8)

A supply of fresh water shall be provided for all hives during all times honeybees are present and active.

(9)

A flyway barrier at least six feet in height shall shield any part of a property line that is within 25 feet of a hive. The flyway barrier shall consist of a wall, fence, dense vegetation or a combination thereof at least 10 feet in length positioned between the hive and the property line such that the hive is in the center of the barrier.

(10)

Any honeybee colony not residing in a hive structure intended for beekeeping, or any swarm of honeybees or colony residing in a standard or homemade hive, which, by virtue of its condition, has been abandoned or not maintained by the beekeeper, is unlawful and may be summarily destroyed or removed from the Village if the beekeeper does not bring the hives into compliance within 30 days of notice from the Village.

B.

Annual permit required.

(1)

Any person who keeps bees on land in the Village which the person owns, occupies or controls shall obtain a permit issued by the Village Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer in accordance with Chapter **179**. The permit is valid January 1 through December 31, and the fee shall be \$25 annually. The annual permit fee shall be paid no later than January 31 of the year prior to the permit term, or within 30 days of acquiring the honey bees. Any fee not paid within 30 days of the permit request will become void and the requester will need to reapply.

(2)

Permit applications submitted by a person other than a record title owner of the property upon which bees will be kept shall provide written consent of the property owner with the permit application.

(3)

Annual permit applications. Upon receipt of an application for a license to house honeybee hives (or a subsequent renewal), the Village Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer shall notify all residents within 200 feet of the applicant's address of the application being filed. If more than 50% of the residents within 200 feet of the applicant's property object in writing within 14 days of being notified, or if any resident produces documented proof that they are allergic to bees, the license shall be denied by the Village Board. Otherwise, the application for the license can be granted by the Village Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer, provided that all other provisions of this section are satisfied.

(4)

The keeping of any person of honeybee colonies in the Village not in compliance with this section is prohibited. Violations shall be subject to the penalties set forth in § **1-4** of the Village Ordinances.

C.

Sale of honey. Honey produced in any Village hives shall not be sold at the residential property unless a conditional use permit has been granted to do so.

D.

Definitions. The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this section, shall have the following meanings:

COLONY

A honeybee hive and its equipment and appurtenances, including honeybees, comb honey pollen, and brood.

HIVE

A structure intended for the housing of a honeybee colony.

HONEYBEE

Any life stage of the common domestic honeybee, *Apis mellifera* species.



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

September 26, 2023

PREPARED BY**AGENDA ITEM # 2.g**

Update: Mount Horeb Public Library hosting Dane County Trash Lab, Thursday November 2nd at 2:30 p.m.

BACKGROUND

Dane County Waste and Renewables outreach program that would serve to educate and encourage broader recycling efforts.

RECOMMENDATION**ATTACHMENTS**

None



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

September 26, 2023

PREPARED BY

AGENDA ITEM # 2.h

Discussion: Sustain Dane Summit

BACKGROUND

<https://sustaindane.org/summit/>

Join us Friday, November 3 for the 15th annual Sustain Dane Summit, a conference for sustainability leaders to learn, connect, share, reflect, and build new skills. This year the Summit will be held at the **Monona Terrace Community & Convention Center** from 7:30 AM – 3:00 PM.

RECOMMENDATION

ATTACHMENTS

None



AGENDA ITEM REPORT

MEETING DATE

September 26, 2023

PREPARED BY

AGENDA ITEM # 2.i

Update Mount Horeb Children's School, Mount Horeb Community garden and Home Energy Consultant LLC to receive Dane County Climate Champion status

BACKGROUND

The Climate Champions program recognizes local entities that are leading on climate action. Our aim is to celebrate local leadership and inspire action from individuals, government, schools, businesses, and nonprofits across Dane County. Whatever climate action you are taking and whether you are a business, nonprofit, or local government, we want to applaud your efforts! Prospective Climate Champions can submit for recognition in one or more of ten recognition categories. If your organization has already been awarded Climate Champion status in a previous round, only apply again if you have implemented enhanced practices in your award category or have a new category submission.

Entities are recognized with up to four star designations depending on the sustainability practices that they implemented. All awardees are granted public recognition, including signage for their businesses.

A proclamation recognizing the three Mount Horeb Recipients is included in your packet.

RECOMMENDATION

ATTACHMENTS

1. Climate Champion Proclamation 2023



A CONGRATULATORY PROCLAMATION IN RECOGNITION OF 2023 DANE COUNTY CLIMATE CHAMPIONS OF MOUNT HOREB

WHERE AS, Mt. Horeb Village Board has embraced a vision which addresses the following;

- Improve health and wellness of all residents.
- Increase our ability to adapt and be resilient to a changing climate.
- Bridge the rural and urban divide, creating solutions that work for everyone in the county.
- Enhance our natural environments, delivering ecosystem benefits.

WHERE AS, three 2023 Dane Climate Champions were designated in the Village of Mount Horeb, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Village of Mount Horeb officially congratulates the following 2023 Dane County Climate Champions for their actions to provide a sustainable community for future generations of villagers, Community Children's School, Home Energy Consulting, LLC and the Mount Horeb Community Garden.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, the Village of Mount Horeb encourages other entities to strive to obtain Dane County Climate Champion designation, and

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that the Village of Mount Horeb applauds not only the before mentioned Climate Champions, but also individual efforts, great and small, to lower the community's carbon footprint.

DATED this 4th day of October, 2023.

Ryan Czyzewski, Village President